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teaching regarding the person of Christ and to the contrasted views of his opponents.

Particular mention should be made of the English translation of the Epistle, which has been prepared with unusual care and which is printed at the top of the right page opposite the Greek text which appears at the left. The notes given below on both pages are concerned mainly with the development of thought.

The commentary is bound to prove helpful and suggestive to all readers; but its brevity and popular character will often make the student of exegesis wish that the author would supplement it with a volume prepared on a different plan which should make possible a more adequate treatment of the many obscurities and difficulties that beset the interpretation of the Epistle.

WARREN J. MOULTON.

BANGOR THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

THE NEW TESTAMENT, WESTMINSTER VERSION. Vol. III. Part I. The Epistles to the Thessalonians. Rev. CUTHBERT LATTEY, S.J. Longmans, Green, & Co. 1913. Pp. xxiv, 21. 40 cents.

This translation, which is based mainly on the Greek text of Westcott and Hort, aims at intelligibility by using phraseology which is neither modern nor obsolete. It is more literal than that of Rutherford or Moffatt, and more dignified than that of the Twentieth Century New Testament. Concise notes accompany the translation and a brief but excellent introduction precedes it. If the standard of excellence set by the present work is maintained in the forthcoming volumes, the success of the Westminster Version is assured.

J. E. FRAME.

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW YORK.

A CRITICAL AND EXEGETICAL COMMENTARY ON THE BOOKS OF EZRA AND NEHEMIAH. (International Critical Commentary Series.) LORING W. BATTEN, Ph.D., S.T.D. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1913. Pp. xvi, 384. \$3.00.

One of the latest of a goodly number of volumes, with the appearance of which within the last few years the International Critical Commentary is approaching completion, is Professor L. W. Batten's Ezra and Nehemiah. Professor Batten's acquaintance with these two books is of long standing, his first work upon them being published in 1901 in the English version of Guthe's notes in the SBOT.

The present volume is clearly the result of much thought and arduous labor. Fifteen pages of prefatory matter are followed by fifty-four pages of introduction; pages 55-380 constitute the body of the book; two indexes, covering two pages, form the conclusion.

Professor Batten presents a warm plea for a very conservative position. His attempt to reconstruct in chronological sequence a series of source-fragments containing more or less trustworthy historical information, is rather alluring: for the time of Cyrus, Ezra 1; for Darius I, Ezra 2 70-4 3 and 4 24b-6 18 (a duplicate account of the building of the temple); for Xerxes, Ezra 4 4-6; for Artaxerxes I, Ezra 4 7-24a and Neh. 1-7, 11-13 (the Nehemiah memoirs); for Artaxerxes II, Ezra 7-10; Neh. 8-10 (containing the Ezra memoirs). Professor Torrey's notable work upon Esdras A is utilized, and at one or two points slightly improved upon.

But Professor Batten's own argument is much impaired by serious inaccuracies and errors in matters of detail. As a matter of history, what Semite, of the time of Cyrus or later, would have thought of dating Cyrus' first year in 559 rather than in 539? Is it really so certain that Cyrus was a Zoroastrian? In matters of archaeology much uncertainty is manifested. "Strap-hinges" will hardly do for the city-gates of Neh. 3 6. A similar *faux pas* has completely vitiated an attempt at textual criticism in Ezra 9 2. "הַסֵּנֶן הַמֵּאֵת", *magistratus iniquitatus*, the officer of lawlessness," need surely only to be printed out together before his eyes to make Professor Batten himself withdraw the suggestion. Finally, the proof-reading has been very lax. Especially unkindly have Greek accents and breathings dealt with Professor Batten. Though he made no attempt at a critically severe reading in this respect, the eyes of the reviewer were disturbed by from one to half a dozen errors of this nature on nearly every page containing Greek words. Perhaps many of these faults may be corrected in a new edition.

MARTIN SPRENGLING.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

STUDIES IN JEWISH LITERATURE ISSUED IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR KAUFMANN KOHLER. GEORG REIMER. Berlin. 1913. Pp. viii, 301.

This volume was presented to Dr. Kohler by colleagues, pupils, and friends, on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, May 10, 1913. It is a fitting tribute to one who for many years has been one of the leaders of Reform Judaism, and one of the foremost exponents of Jewish scholarship in this country.